

IV. REMARKS

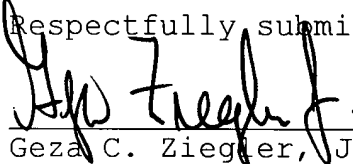
1. Claims 1-9 have been cancelled. Claims 10-15 have been added.

2. The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended to comply with MPEP 608.01(b).

The amendments to the claims are not limiting, are not made for reasons related to patentability, and do not raise issues of estoppel.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims present in the application are clearly novel and patentable, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.

Reg. No.: 44,004

PERMAN & GREEN, LLP

425 Post Road

Fairfield, CT 06824

(203) 259-1800

Customer No.: 2512